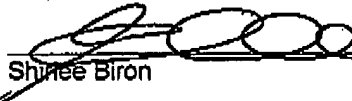


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AUG 05 2005**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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 August 5, 2005
Shinee Biron Date

In the matter of the application of

Martin COUSINEAU

for: HOSE CLAMP

Owner: Martin COUSINEAU

Filed: November 20, 2003

Ser.No.: 10/716,566

Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: Aaron M. DUNWOODY

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, U.S.A.

Sir,

This is responsive to Office Action dated June 6, 2005.

Although the Office Action as been made Final by the Examiner, the applicant respectfully requests that the Final designation of the instant application be withdrawn and that prosecution be reopened, since the applicant believes that the Examiner has failed to meet his burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness (see details in pages 8 and 9 hereinbelow).

Accordingly, please amend the present application as follows.

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